

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This response is submitted in reply to the Office Action dated September 29, 2009. Claims 1, 4-17, 19, 21-23, 77, 79, 92, 96-100, 102, 103, 105-111, and 113-116 currently stand rejected. As explained below, however, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is supported by the specification and patentably distinct from the cited references, taken individually or in any proper combination. Nonetheless, Applicants have amended various ones of the claims to further clarify the claimed invention. No new matter has been added by the amendment.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented herein, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

A. Claims 1, 9, 12, 13, 16, 97, 98, 99, and 106-110 are Supported by the Specification.

Claims 1, 9, 12, 13, 16, 97, 98, 99, and 106-110 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph for allegedly not being supported by the specification. In particular, the Office Action alleges that the recitation including “completely” releasing a connection is not supported by the specification. Applicants have amended the claims to remove the recitation directed to “completely” releasing the connection thereby rendering the rejection moot.

B. Claims 1, 4-13, 19, 23, 77, 79-88, 97-99, 102, 103, 105-108, 110, 111, and 113-116 are Novel.

Claims 1, 4-13, 19, 23, 77, 79-88, 97-99, 102, 103, 105-108, 110, 111, and 113-116 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,404,754 to Lim. However, Lim fails to anticipate the claimed invention because Lim does not teach each and every feature of the claimed invention.

Independent claim 1, and similarly independent claims 9, 12, 97-99, and 106-108, recite “a monitor configured to monitor at least one parameter related to an active connection... and... cause the connection to be released.” As described in the present specification at page 10, lines 17-30 signaling is performed with respect to the connection, thereby indicating that the connection is an active connection.

Lim fails to describe the releasing of an active connection. Rather, according to Lim, a connection first transitions into a dormant or dormant-open state. Subsequent to transitioning to the dormant-open state, the dormant-open connection is released. See Lim, Col. 7, Lines 32-45. As such, the connection is no longer active when the connection is released, as recited in the independent claims.

Further, independent claim 1, and similarly independent claims 9, 12, 97-99, and 106-108, recite “caus[ing] the connection to be released when there is user inactivity for a predetermined period of time by causing transmission of a release message comprising an indication of the reason for releasing the connection.” As described in the specification at page 10, lines 26-28, a communication is sent that “indicates the reason why the bearer should be released.” Lim fails to teach or suggest this feature. Rather, than disclosing a release message that includes an indication of the reason for releasing the connection, Lim merely indicates at Col. 39, Lines 39-43, that a radio network controller “informs” a mobile switching center to release a switching virtual circuit.

Additionally, the independent claims recite that the same active connection that is monitored is subsequently released. Lim on the other hand, at Col. 7, Lines 31-45, describes the release of a switching virtual circuit, and not the release of a connection. In this regard, Lim considers the activity of a point-to-point connection, but acts upon the switching virtual circuit and not specifically the point-to-point connection to release the connection.

For at least the reasons provided above, Lim fails to teach or suggest all the features of independent claims 1, 9, 12, 97-99, and 106-108, and therefore the independent claims are not anticipated by Lim. As a result, independent claims 1, 9, 12, 97-99, and 106-108, and their respective dependent claims, are patentable over Lim. The rejection of claims 1, 4-13, 19, 23, 77, 79-88, 97-99, 102, 103, 105-108, 110, 111, and 113-116 is therefore overcome.

C. Claims 14-17, 21, 22, 89-92, 96, 100, and 109 are Nonobvious.

Claims 14-17, 21, 22, 89-92, 96, 100, and 109 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lim in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,119,000 to Stephenson. However, the cited combination relies upon Lim for disclosing the same features as described above with respect to the anticipation rejection. Independent claims 16 and 109, which are

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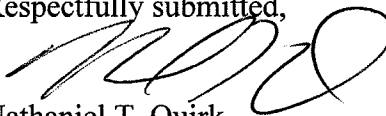
rejected as being obvious in view of the cited combination, include similar features as those described above with respect to claim 1, and therefore Lim fails to teach these features included by independent claims 16 and 109 as well. Since Lim fails in this regard, and Stephenson does not cure the deficiencies of Lim (nor is Stephenson cited for this purpose), claims 14-17, 21, 22, 89-92, 96, 100, and 109 are patentable over the cited combination due at least to the failures of Lim. The rejections of claims 14-17, 21, 22, 89-92, 96, 100, and 109 are therefore overcome.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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